

## 1. PHONEMES

1.1. **Contrast.** The nucleus of a phoneme is contrastive as to point and type of articulation. Employing three articulatory zones, consonants are shown in Chart A. Ranging from front, to central, to back, vowels are shown in Chart B.

### Chart A

#### CONSONANTS

	<i>Bilabial</i>	<i>Alveolar</i>	<i>Velar</i>
Stops		t	k
	b	d	g
Fricatives	f	s	
Nasals	m	n	
Vibrant		r	
Semi-Vowels	w	y	

---

### Chart B

#### VOWELS

	<i>Front</i>	<i>Central</i>	<i>Back</i>
High	i		u
Low	e	a	o

---

Consonant phonemes contrast in identical and analogous environment.<sup>5</sup>

/w/	v.	/b/	/ewiúm/	'his saliva'	/ebiúm/	'his soap'
/w/	v.	/f/	/wíro/	'you (2) come'	/fíro/	'you (2) go'
/f/	v.	/b/	/féo/	'you fold'	/béo/	'you work'
/m/	v.	/b/	/kamá/	'black'	/kabá/	'moon'
/n/	v.	/d/	/néem/	'father of'	/déem/	'feces'
/t/	v.	/d/	/táwa/	'here'	/dáwa/	'tree type'
/t/	v.	/r/	/dítóo/	'you tell'	/díro/	'you (2) speak'
/t/	v.	/s/	/tán/	'to lean'	/sán/	'digging stick'
/r/	v.	/d/	/furó/	'I went'	/fudó/	'you break'
/m/	v.	/n/	/gáam/	'skin'	/gáán/	'child'
/y/	v.	/s/	/yúwa/	'name'	/súwa/	'place'

Vowel phonemes contrast in identical and analogous environments.

/e/	v.	/i/	/enayé/	'I give'	/ináye/	'I put'
/e/	v.	/a/	/kowiyé/	'stump'	/kowiya/	'tongs'
/o/	v.	/u/	/kóba/	'dish'	/kúba/	'stick'
/o/	v.	/a/	/sumó/	'He hit?'	/sumá/	'He hit!'

Swick, Joyce. 1966. "Chuave phonological hierarchy." *Linguistic Circle of Canberra Publications A 7*: 33-48.